COMMON CORE GEORGIA PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
TEXT COMPLEXITY RUBRIC

TEXT: Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo   **GENRE:** Fiction (Literary)   **GRADE:** 3

COMPLEXITY MEASURE	LOW (1-3 POINTS)	MODERATE (4-6 PTS)	HIGH (7-10 POINTS)
Qualitative aspects of text complexity best measured by an attentive human reader, such as levels of meaning or purpose; structure; language conventionality and clarity; and knowledge demands.			
Levels of meaning. K-5: Symbolism, abstract thought,/technical, academic content		Symbolism-(e.g., Littmus lozenge-sweet and sad-experiences with life) Storms-difficulty/ struggles in life	7
Structure. K-5: Chapters, multiple plot lines, glossaries, headings, or footnotes. K-12: Text length			8 Text length is appropriate for 3rd grade. Plot is challenging.
Language conventionality. K-5: colloquialisms, figurative/ idiomatic language, dialects, technical and academic vocabulary			9 Great deal of figurative language/idiomatic language/dialects
Background knowledge. Content with which students might reasonably be expected to be acquainted or that will be comprehensible when introduced			8 Friendships/Pet/Death/Loss of parent/Divorce
Quantitative aspects of text complexity, such as word length or frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion, that are difficult for a human reader to evaluate efficiently, as measured by Lexile.			
K-1 n/a 2-3 450L - 790L 4-5 770L - 980L			Lexile- 610 10 This book has vocabulary that is challenging and a theme that children will understand.
Reader and Task Considerations focus on the inherent complexity of text, reader motivation, knowledge, and experience and the purpose and complexity of the task at hand. Best made by teachers employing their professional judgment.			
Does this text challenge readers? Readers comprehend about 75% of the text, working to make meaning of the remaining 25%			8 There could be some difficulty with dialect/figurative language and symbolism. The text is appropriate.
Does this text match the interests of the students? (When appropriate)			10 High interest
Is this text ideal for the task?			10
Mismatches for which qualitative and quantitative measures cannot easily account.			10 None
Miscellaneous considerations. You may award up to 10 points for specific merits of a text not covered in the rubric domains.			
Specific Merits			10
Please write a brief explanation of the specific merits of this text in the box beneath the points awarded		This book has real life applications. It is a Newberry Award Winner and captures the attention of students quickly.	

TOTAL SCORE   90

80 - 100 POINTS: EXTREMELY APPROPRIATE TEXT CHOICE
50-79   POINTS: ACCEPTABLE TEXT CHOICE
25-49   POINTS: RECONSIDER OR CHANGE GRADE/PURPOSE OF THIS TEXT CHOICE
0 - 24   POINTS: ELIMINATE OR CHANGE GRADE/PURPOSE OF THIS TEXT CHOICE

EVALUATOR COMMENTS: This story is a Newberry Award Winner and has a child as the narrator of the book. Children will love the adventures of the main character, Opal, and her newly acquired pet, Winn-Dixie!